As I said this morning I will take up the question of a bridge at the Travancore-Cochin frontier.

About the Alwaye bridge I have expressed my view on the subject more than once. It will be a very expensive bridge ; and it becomes a question of whose needs are greater, Alwaye or Neendakara or various other places. We have to give priority according to the greatness of the need.

62. Need for encouraging Sanskrit education.

MR. K. U. THOMAS (*Member, Municipal Council, Kayancolam*) said that the Trivandrum Sanskrit College was the only institution for Sanskrit education which was maintained by the State. There were a number of private Sanskrit schools in the mofussil. But there was in the first place no uniformity in the nature of the instruction imparted in these schools. Secondly, the pupils in these schools found it extremely difficult to go for higher education in the Trivandrum Sanskrit College. These defects had to be removed by Government. So far as the difficulty for higher education was concerned, it could be removed to some extent if Government established a Sanskrit High School at Kayancolam.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Thomas, Government will be very pleased to consider the question of grant-in-aid to a Sanskrit School at Kayancolam if one is established by a private agency.

63. Necessity for changing the present system of education.

MR. V. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Member, Municipal Council, Parur*) said that the present system of education in so far as it was purely literary in character failed to make men fit for civic existence. It gave them no culture and gave them no equipment for the strenuous battle of life. All that an educated man of today was fit for was some employment in the Government service, the chances of securing which were, however, very limited. Nor was this system of education economically advantageous. It was very costly. As remarked by the Dewan in his opening address, many were the fond parents who sacrificed all for equipping their sons for Government employment. In the end they and their children were left disappointed and poor. Many of the educated men remained without any employment. To till the soil was something for which they were not trained and which they thought dishonourable to take up.

It was high time for Government to change this system of education. Indeed it was gratifying to note that Government proposed to appoint a committee to examine the question. But the appointment of the committee was not to be delayed till the publication of the Unemployment Committee's report. It would be better to appoint the committee at once.

Some changes could also be made at once in the educational system. Food and raiment were the two unavoidable necessities of man and every country should be able to produce these two commodities for herself. But Travancore had to depend upon other countries for both these things. Agriculture, hand spinning, and weaving should therefore be taught to every man. These should be made compulsory subjects of study in all schools. Other Governments had already done it. For example the Government of Bengal had introduced compulsory education in agriculture in their schools. With regard to the teaching of spinning and weaving the Legislative Council had passed a resolution, but it was not given effect to in the fullest measure. If Government did it, Travancore would soon become a self-sufficient country in the matter of clothing.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Krishna Pillai, opinion is divided as I see it is here today, as to whether a committee or other agency to enquire into the subject of education should be appointed immediately or should await the publication of the Unemployment Committee's report. The weight of opinion seems to be that we should wait for the Unemployment Committee's report and study the effects of the disease before proceeding to diagnose its causes.

In regard to the ideal that you advocate working up to., viz every man, woman and child should produce his or her own food and his or her own clothing,

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that is putting back the hands of the clock a long while. I doubt whether that will be feasible however worthy the ideal may be.

In regard to our State, the population is so dense that the available acreage is relatively small and cannot produce all the requirements of the people. You can easily work it out yourself.

The area of Travancore is 7,600 sq. miles. Deduct from this the 1,500 sq. miles of forests. There are about 5,000 sq. miles available for cultivation. The present population of Travancore is roughly in the neighbourhood of 44 lakhs. Divide 5,000 sq. miles by 44 lakhs and convert the result into acres and cents and you will see that the available lands cannot possibly support the population.

64. A scheme for the encouragement of higher education among Malayala Brahmins.

MR. TRIVIKRAMARU VASUDEVARU (*Member, Jenmies, Trivandrum Division, Group I*) dealing with the encouragement of higher education among Malayala Brahmins proposed the formation of a Namputiri Education Trust on the following lines :

(1) A trust by the above name should be started and registered.

(2) The capital of the trust should be Rs. 1,00,000 which should be divided into shares of Re. 1 each.

(3) The amount which is annually spent for the Special School at Kulakada together with its management should be handed over to the trust.

(4) The private religious endowments of the Malayala Brahmins, such as Sabhamatams, Othoottus etc., which were in the possession of Government and which came into the possession of Government hereafter should be handed over to the trust.

(5) Those religious endowments whose management was found to be unsatisfactory should, according to the recommendation of the trust, be taken possession of by the Government and handed over to the trust.

(6) The money collected should be deposited in the Government treasury or in State-aided banks.

(7) The money should be utilised for educational purposes in accordance with the decision of the trust.

(8) The accounts of the trust should be audited by an officer appointed by the Government.

(9) The trust should be under the management of a board consisting of six non-official members and the Director of Public Instruction or one of the Inspectors of Schools appointed by the Government.

(10) The non-official members of the board should be elected from the board by those share-holders who had taken not less than 100 shares.

(11) One of the elected members should be the secretary of the board and the president of each meeting should be elected at such meetings.

(12) The board should be authorised :

(*a*) to select the subjects to be specialised ;
(*b*) to select students ;
(*c*) to select the places of study ;
(*d*) to get the necessary bonds from the selected candidates or their parents or from both.

(13) Government should show special encouragement in the matter of appointments, promotions etc., to Malayala Brahmin candidates educated under the above scheme.

If the scheme appeared feasible to Government the member said he would submit further details.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Trivikramaru Vasudevaru, your scheme for the education of Malayala Brahmin students by the setting up of a Namputiri Education Trust is an extremely interesting one and I shall study it more closely and have it examined.

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